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Nicaraguan Pilot Training

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] the Sandinista pilots who have been training in 25X1
Bulgaria will begin returning to Managua within the next six
months. This information is consistent with a recent report from
another source, which states that the 90 pilot trainers sent to
Bulgaria for jet fighter training in May 1980 were taking three
to four-year courses. Thus a substantial number of Nicaraguan
pilots capable of flying MIG fighter aircraft may be available by
early 1983. [redacted] 25X1

Meanwhile, there have been no further reports on the status
of the 16 pilots reportedly sent to Cuba for MIG fighter training
in August 1981. If these pilots had already qualified on T-33
basic jet trainers prior to their departure, they may already be
nearing completion of MIG-17 or MIG-21 transition training. The
same source who reported their departure claimed that they would
return with six MIG aircraft, but he did not specify which model
or the date of their return. [redacted] 25X1

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